

MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES (GOCI)  
MARYLAND COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS (MCIA)

MINUTES OF MARCH MEETING:  
March 1, 2010

Banneker-Douglas Museum  
84 Franklin Street  
Annapolis, Maryland  
7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

**Present:** Chair Auriel Fenwick, Vice Chair Thomas Windsor, II, Kathryn E. Robbins Fitzhugh, Wanda Lee, Sherry Majors, Guy Wells

**Absent:** Virginia Busby, Cornelius Allen Red Deer

**Staff Present:** E. Keith Colston, Agnes M. Smith

**I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:** Commissioner/Chair Auriel Fenwick called the meeting to order.

It was agreed that the Minutes for November and February will be in review.

**SWEAT LODGE:**

Commissioner Guy Wells told the Commission that the sweat lodges are doing well. As of February all is fine.

Chair Fenwick noted that there was a request to duplicate what was being done for sweat lodge.

**CENSUS:**

The Commission was given information about the Census Summit. Prince George's County in Fort Washington will be having an Inter-Faith Summit. Members of community can gather materials. The Commission is trying to outreach to the community through the churches.

Administrator Keith Colston noted that the dates were changed due to in climate weather. Administrator Colston asked the leaders who could to help reach out in a larger manner.

Chair Fenwick asked if the spiritual leaders can't attend to have someone from the community attend. Ten questions, ten minutes, to change your community.

**II. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:** Administrator Keith Colston spoke about the different events and meetings he attended throughout the month. He encouraged everyone to look at MCIA's website for dates and locations for different events and to also send information to the Office to be posted on the website.

Maryland has made the change to place State recognized children in Native American foster homes.

Native Americans are putting in living wills. This will be worked on in each of the communities. The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs is working with the Register of Wills.

The Business Conference has been postponed until April. Request from the community for dates and events planned for 2010.

The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs Legislative Reception is scheduled for March 24, 2010. It was again noted that the Business Conference will be held sometime in April. The Business Conference will be in South Maryland and Baltimore on a Saturday.

Chair Fenwick noted that April 24<sup>th</sup> would be a good date for the Business Conference. She thought it would be a good idea to have classes, forums, etc. Have Ms. Paula Matthias or someone come from the Register of Wills, someone from the Department of Aging (Mr. Milton Hunt), etc. It was noted that the Commission be pro-active for 2010.

Administrator Colston noted that the agencies requested will be contacted.

There was an update concerning the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs website updates. Changes will be made. Administrator Colston is meeting with Administrator Iman Awad. He noted that the resources tab is not being utilized. There will be links to Comar, by-laws, links to the community, etc. One major change noted is to be linked to tribal websites.

There were no updates for Repatriation and Census.

Vice Chair Thomas Windsor reminded the Commissioners and community to attend the Repatriation meeting. Go to meeting and find out first hand what's going on.

There are no updates on the demographics study.

### **III. Announcements**

The Piscataway 5K Run/Walk will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2010. The proceeds will be going to youth programs, etc.

Administrator Colston told the Commission if interested in grants to contact Eric Brenner. He encouraged everyone to contact him with facts, figures, dates, etc. if interested in grants.

There was a discussion to have the Business Conference on April 17, 2010. However, it was asked to push the conference to May to have more time to contact community.

Chief Winterhawf Fitzhugh noted that there is activity in the Repatriation Committee. Documents are being reviewed and they are beginning to work with the Department of Natural Resources Forestry about sites for Eastern Shore. Next move is for chiefs to look at sites and make recommendations for Eastern Shore. Under NAGRA State still have to have control.

There was a discussion with Chief Crowe, Assateague that there could be a memorandum of Understanding. Wesley Chapel is a registered graveyard. He noted that he was approached by Andrews Air Force Base and they are coming down and then they are going to paint Wesley Chapel.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.